



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Aviation
Administration**

Advisory Circular

Subject: SPECIFICATION FOR L-841 AUXILIARY
RELAY CABINET FOR PILOT CONTROL OF
AIRPORT LIGHTING CIRCUITS

Date: 08/08/86
Initiated by: AAS-200

AC No.: 150/5345-13A
Change:

1. PURPOSE

a. This advisory circular (AC) contains the specification requirements for a relay cabinet used to control airfield lighting circuits. The L-841 consists of an enclosure containing a DC power supply, control circuit protection and 20 pilot relays.

b. This AC has been editorially updated for reprint/stock purposes only. There were no changes made to the content of the AC except to update related reading material and to renumber the document to AC 150/5345-13A.

2. CANCELLATION. AC 150/5345-13, Specification for L-841 Auxiliary Relay Cabinet Assembly for Pilot Control of Airport Lighting Circuits, dated January 6, 1964, is cancelled.

3. APPLICATION. The standards contained herein are recommended by the FAA in all applications involving airport development of this nature. The standards are mandatory for Federally-funded projects.

4. MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP. Materials and workmanship shall be in accordance with highest commercial standards for this type of equipment.

5. SIZE. The cabinet assembly shall be manufactured in one size adequate to accommodate the power supply, pilot relays, and accessory devices.

6. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS. The assembly shall be designed for continuous indoor service at ambient temperatures ranging from -45°F. to 120°F. The assembly shall be designed for continuous operation in humid and corrosive atmospheres such as those encountered near the sea coast or refineries.

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7. DETAIL REQUIREMENTS.

a. Enclosure. The size of the enclosure shall be sufficient contain power supply, terminal boards, pilot relays, accessory devices, and to provide a minimum gutter space of 4 inches on all sides. The housing of the enclosure shall be made from commercial hot galvanized or cold rolled sheet steel, 14 gauge minimum. The cover for the enclosure shall be cold rolled sheet steel, 12 gauge minimum. The housing and cover shall be cleaned and finished with 1 coat of rust-inhibiting paint and at least 1 coat of gray lacquer. The cover shall be attached to the housing with flush or concealed hinges, and it shall be equipped with a handle capable of locking the door in a closed position. Two keys shall be furnished for the lock. The enclosure, shall be designed for surface mounting with at least 4 holes provided in the back for 1/4 inch mounting bolts. Bolts for interior equipment mounting shall not protrude through the back of the enclosure. There shall be at least 8 knockouts for 1-inch conduit on the housing. Two 1-inch knockouts shall be located on each of the 4 sides, and three 2-inch knockouts shall be located on the bottom. A suitable ground lug, clearly marked, shall be provided either inside or outside the enclosure for a No. 6 AWG ground wire.

b. DC Power Supply. The power supply shall consist of a single phase input transformer, a full wave rectifier, and necessary protective devices.

- (1) The input transformer shall be designed to supply the rectifier with adequate power to perform as specified in paragraph 7b(2) below. The transformer shall be designed for a 115-volt, 50/60-cycle input.
- (2) The full wave rectifier shall be designed to supply at least 48-volts DC at an output of 1.25 amperes, and at an ambient temperature of 120°F. when supplied with a 115-volt, 50/60-cycle input. The power supply shall have a no-load output voltage of less than 70 volts DC, with an input voltage of 125 volts, 50/60-cycles. The ripple content of the output voltage shall be less than 17, (500 millivolts).
- (3) The power supply shall have a 2-ampere fuse connected in both-the transformer and the rectifier secondary circuits as shown in Figure 1. A suitable oil-filled capacitor and resistor shall be connected across the DC output of the rectifier to limit high frequency induced transients and transient switching surges across the rectifier. All components shall be rated for continuous operation at an ambient temperature of 120°F.

c. Pilot Relay.

- (1) The pilot relays shall be the plug-in type, mounted in an accessible location. Each relay shall be furnished in a transparent dustproof enclosure.
- (2) The coil of the relay shall have a minimum resistance of 1300 ohms and it shall be rated for normal operation at 48 volts DC. The pull-in voltage of the relay shall be 30 volts DC, but the relay shall be capable of operating continuously with 75 volts DC applied across the coil.
- (3) The relay shall have 2 sets normally open contacts, rated to perform 100,000 operations, making and breaking an inrush current of 10 amperes at 120 volts, 50/60 cycles. The contacts shall also be rated to continuously carry a 4-ampere, 50/60-cycle inductive load.
- (4) There shall be a 0.47 microfarad, 600-volt capacitor installed in the cabinet across the coil of each relay and a 100-ohm, 2-watt resistor installed in series with each coil as shown in Figure 1.
- (5) A noncapacitive arc suppression device, suitable for installation across a 120-volt AC circuit with 10-ampere inductive switching cycles, shall be connected across each pair of relay contacts. A suitable "back-to-back" diode assembly will be adequate for this application. A single polarized diode is not acceptable.

- (6) Each of the 20 relays shall have an identifying letter, from "A" through "T", painted on the cabinet adjacent to it for rapid identification.
- d. Terminal Boards. There shall be 2 sets of terminal boards installed inside the enclosure.
- (1) A total of 60 consecutive terminals shall be provided on terminal boards arranged in a set as shown in Figure 1. The terminal boards shall be suitable for connecting No. 19 AWG wire. The terminals shall be the screw type and rated to carry at least 2 amperes at 75 volt DC. Forty of the terminals shall be marked, in pairs, with their corresponding relay's identifying letter followed by a plus or minus sign. For example, the coil of relay "A" shall connect to terminals A+; A-, and the coil of relay "B" shall connect to terminals B+; B-. This system of marking shall be continued for all relays so that the coil of relay "T" will be connected to terminals T+; T-. The remaining 20 terminals shall be marked with numerals from "1" through "20". No connections shall be made to these terminals.
- (2) A second set of terminal boards consisting of 82 terminals shall be arranged as shown in Figure 1. The terminal boards shall be suitable for connecting No. 12 AWG wire. The terminals shall be the pressure type and rated to carry at least 10 amperes at 250 Volts AC. One side of the terminal boards, the first 80 terminals, shall serve as connection points for the relay contacts. The terminals shall be marked, in groups of 4, with their corresponding relay's identifying letter followed by the numeral "1", "2", "3", or "4". For example, the contacts of relay "A" shall connect to terminals A1, A2, A3, and A4, respectively. This system of marking shall be continued for all relays so that the contacts of relay "T" will be connected to terminals T1, T2, T3, and T4, respectively. The final 2 terminals in the set of 82 shall be marked "X1" and "X2". These terminals shall serve a connection point between the incoming 120.volt AC power and the input transformer.
- e. Wire and Wiring. The auxiliary relay cabinet assembly shall be completely wired at the factory with connections made to all appropriate terminals so that the only connections necessary in the field will be to connect the external control circuits and the input power. All DC wiring shall be at least No. 19 AWG plastic wire. All AC wiring shall be at least No. 12 AWG stranded, 6000volt plastic wire. All wires shall be neatly trained and bundled with DC wiring bundled separately from AC wiring.
- f. Wiring Diagram. A wiring diagram shall be permanently mounted on the interior of the cabinet door.
- g. Relay Schedule. A relay schedule, to identify use of individual relay, shall be mounted on the interior of the cabinet door. The schedule shall consist of 20 lines, marked "A" through "T", corresponding to the relays of the panel, with space for identifying information to be filled in, in the field. The relay schedule may be printed on a material similar or equal to the E.I. du Pont de Nemour's and Company, Incorporated's "mylar."
- h. Code Requirements. The auxiliary relay cabinet assembly shall comply with all applicable requirements of the National Electrical Code.
- i. Parts List. A component parts list shall be furnished with each cabinet.
- j. Nameplate. A nameplate shall be permanently mounted on the outside of the auxiliary relay assembly door, and it shall contain the following information:
- (1) Airport Lighting Auxiliary Relay Assembly
 - (2) Identification: FAA L-841
 - (3) Manufacturer's Part No.
 - (4) Manufacturer's Name or Trademark

- k. Optional Interlock Switch. An interlock switch shall be installed as optional equipment if specified by the user. The switch shall be designed to carry 5 amperes at 120 volts AC, continuously. The switch shall also be designed and installed so that the 120-volt AC input power to the auxiliary relay cabinet will be automatically disconnected when the cabinet door is opened.

8. TESTING.

a. Qualification Testing.

- (1) Dielectric Test. All terminals on the terminal block shall have a potential of at least 500 volts, r.m.s., 60 cycles applied for a period of one minute between the terminal and the grounded case. There shall be no breakdown of insulation.
- (2) Operational Test. The unit shall be energized by applying a 115-volt, 60 cycle signal to the input terminals X1 and X2. All relay coil terminals shall be jumpered, simulating a closed external control switch, and the relay's contacts shall be checked to determine that they are properly closed, by means of an ohmmeter or a pilot light test board. The jumpers shall then be removed, and the relays shall again be checked to determine that their contacts have properly opened.
- (3) Power Supply Tests.
 - (a) A 115-volt, 60 cycle signal shall be connected to the input terminals X1 and X2 of the assembly, and all relay shall be energized. The voltage across the relay coils shall be at least 48 volts. An oscillograph tracing or photograph shall be made of the DC power supply to show the output of the power supply with all relays energized, and when the input power is switched on and off, the ripple content of the DC power supply output shall be less than 1% (500 millivolts).
 - (b) A 125-volt, 60 cycle signal shall be applied to the input terminals X1 and X2 of the assembly, and the no-load output voltage of the DC power supply shall be checked to determine that it does not exceed 70 volts DC.
- (4) A dummy load, consisting of capacitance and resistance, shall be connected in the circuit with each of 2 relay coils to simulate an actual cable installation 3 miles in length. While the dummy load is connected, the relays shall be checked for proper operation when they are switched on and off. The rating of the capacitor and resistor shall correspond to the values of capacitance and resistance encountered in 1 pair of 26 pairs No. 19 AWG telephone cable that has an average mutual capacitance of 0.083 ± 0.004 microfarads per mile and a nominal DC conductor with a resistance of 42.5 ohms per mile.
- (5) An inductive load with an inrush current of not less than 10 amperes shall be switched on and off while connected across a pair of relay contacts. There shall be no evidence of arcing of relay contacts.
- (6) The relay contacts, with the arc suppressors installed across them, shall be checked for evidence of a capacitive effect. The contacts shall be charged for 1 minute with 120 volts AC. After the AC voltage is removed, there shall be no evidence of a potential across the relay contacts.

b. Production Testing. Each production auxiliary relay cabinet assembly shall be subjected to the tests specified in paragraphs 8a(1) and 8a(2).

9. QUALIFICATION PROCEDURES. Procedures for obtaining qualification approval are contained in AC 150/5345-1, Approved Airport Lighting Equipment.

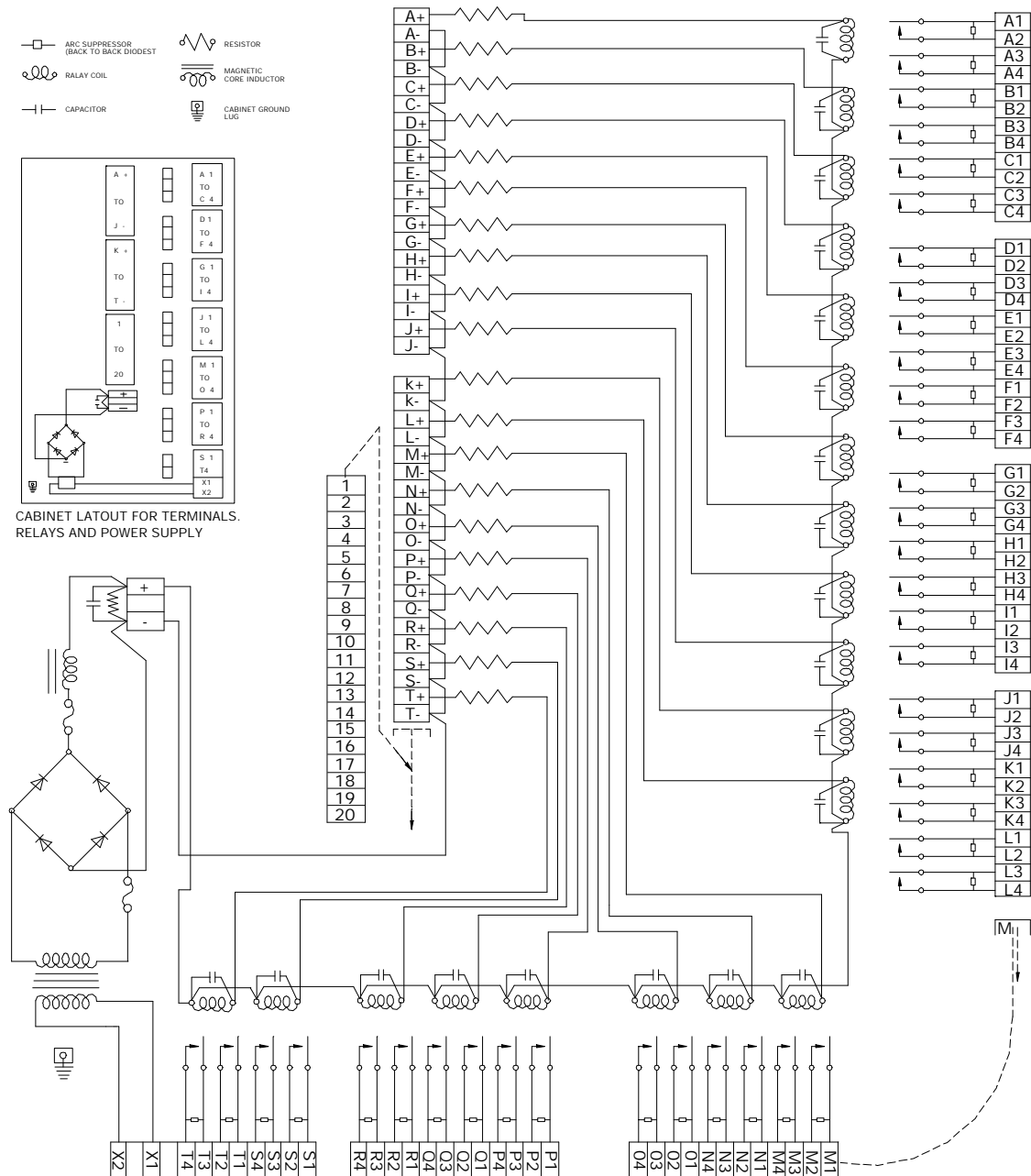


FIGURE 1. TYPICAL WIRING DIAGRAM OF L-841 RELAY ASSEMBLY